

# **Everyone's at Risk: Combating the Increasing Threat of Online Fraud and Identity Theft**

**Chris Neighbor**  
Assistant to the Director  
Office of Privacy and Information Protection



Small Business/Self-Employed Division  
National Phone Forum, August 2009

## **Office of Privacy, Information and Data Security**

Strategies of focus

- Promote public confidence
- Ensure servicewide integrity
- Improve awareness
  - educate the public
  - educate employees

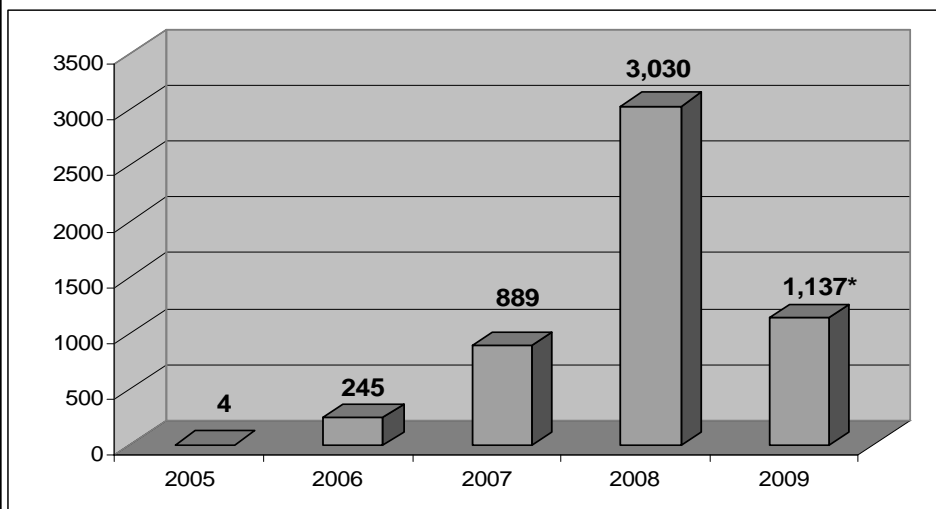


## Common Identity Theft Methods

- Dumpster diving
- Skimming
- Phishing
- E-file phishing sites
- Stealing



## IRS Phishing Statistics



\* As of April 24, 2009


## Other ID Theft Threats

- Evolving cyberspace threats
- Social networking sites
- Mobile telephones



## Fraudulent IRS Internet Site

[Contact IRS](#) | [About IRS](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Español](#) | [Help](#)

 **Internal Revenue Service**  
United States Department of the Treasury

Keyword/Search Terms    
[Advanced Search](#) [Search Tips](#)



**INDIVIDUALS** | **BUSINESSES** | **CHARITIES & NON-PROFITS** | **GOVERNMENT ENTITIES** | **TAX PROFESSIONALS** | **RETIREMENT PLANS COMMUNITY** | **TAX EXEMPT BOND COMMUNITY**

### Most Requested Forms and Publications

1. [Form W-4](#)
2. [Form W-9](#)
3. [Form 1040](#)
4. [Form SS-4](#)
5. [Form 8822](#)

[More Forms and Publications](#)

### Online Tools

- [Online EIN Application](#)  
It's fast and user-friendly
- [Where's My Refund?](#)  
It's quick, easy and secure
-  **e-file**  
Fast, Easy & More Accurate.
-  **electronic IRS**  
File, Pay... and More.

[More Online Tools](#)

### Get Refund

Please enter your Social Security Number and your **DEBIT** Card information where refunds will be made. Double check your data before submitting this form

SSN:

Debit Card Number:

Expiry date:  Month  Year

CVV2:

Full Name:

City:


Zip Code:

Date of Birth:  Ex: mm/dd/yy

Email:

### I need to...

<Select One>



► **NEW e-file for Excise Taxes**  
\*\*\*  
Is your Form 2290 due?  
Why not e-file!

► **BONUS at Anaheim Forum**  
\*\*\*  
Multicultural issues? Talk to

Internal Revenue Service United States Department of the Treasury									
<input type="text"/> SEARCH									
<a href="#">Advanced Search</a> <a href="#">Search Tips</a>									
<a href="#">Individuals</a>	<a href="#">Businesses</a>	<a href="#">Charities &amp; Non-Profits</a>	<a href="#">Government Entities</a>	<a href="#">Tax Professionals</a>	<a href="#">Retirement Plans Community</a>	<a href="#">Tax Exempt Bond Community</a>			

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### Most Requested Forms and Publications

- [Form VV-4](#)
- [Form VV-9](#)
- [Form 1040](#)
- [Form 8822](#)
- [Form 1040X](#)

[More Forms and Publications](#)

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### Online Services

- where's my refund?**  
It's quick, easy and secure
- freefile**  
Do taxes online free
- e-file**  
Fast, Easy & More Accurate.
- How Much Was My Stimulus Payment?**

[More Online Services](#)

### Need Help?

**Avoid Rebate Credit Confusion**  
We offer tips to help you get it right.

[1040 Central Meets Your Needs](#)  
Try our one-stop shop for all your tax season needs.

**What If ... ?**  
Job loss? Foreclosure? Find out how to deal with unpleasant situations.

< [ ] > 2 of 4

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**Update on Recovery Tax Provisions for Individuals and Businesses**  
Find out about tax deductions, credits and other aspects of the economic recovery law.

**Free File Available**  
E-filing through Free File is available until Oct. 15 for most people.

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### Information About

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careers</li> <li>Phishing and e-mail Scams</li> <li>Frequently Asked Questions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newsroom</li> <li>Tax Stats</li> <li>Taxpayer Advocate Service</li> </ul>
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I need to: <Select One> GO

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**IRS Nationwide Tax Forums**  
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First stop: Las Vegas  
Register early and save \$129

**\*Taxes due? Can't pay in full\***  
\*\*\*  
Apply online for a monthly payment agreement.

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[Accessibility](#) | 
 [Appeal a Tax Dispute](#) | 
 [Contracting Opportunities](#) | 
 [Freedom of Information Act](#) | 
 [Important Links](#)  
[IRS Privacy Policy](#) | 
 [Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration](#) | 
 [USA.gov](#) | 
 [U.S. Treasury](#)

**From:** service@irs.gov

**Date:** 4/18/2008 12:32:00 PM

**Subject:** Get 2008 Economic Stimulus Refund ( \$1800 )

- Over 130 million Americans will receive refunds as part of President **Bush** program to jumpstart the economy.
- Our records indicate that you are qualified to receive the 2008 Economic Stimulus Refund.
- The fastest and easiest way to receive your refund is by direct deposit to your checking/savings account.
- Please click on the link and fill out the form and submit before April 18th, 2008 to ensure that your refund will be processed as soon as possible.
- Submitting your form on April 18th, 2008 or later means that your refund will be delayed due to the volume of requests we anticipate for the Economic Stimulus Refund.
- To access Economic Stimulus Refund, please click here.
- Link pointed to: <http://forty-two.info/msm/install/templates/.www.irs.gov/get-refund/irfofgetstatus.htm>

## **Identity Protection Specialized Unit**

### **800-908-4490**

- Verify taxpayer identity and identity theft
- Self-report identity theft before it affects tax accounts
- Self-report incidents of identity theft due to compromise of PII
- Resolve existing tax account identity theft issues



## **IRS Identity Protection Strategy**

- Track taxpayers who currently have tax problems related to ID theft
- Track taxpayers who report ID theft to IRS with no current ID theft tax problems
- Assist in distinguishing legitimate returns from fraudulent returns
- Track ID theft, refund crime and phishing victims



## **Focus of Identity Theft Strategy**

- Victim assistance
- Outreach
- Prevention



## **Protect Your Identity**

- Social Security numbers
- Account numbers
- Access codes
- Personal data
- Credit report
- Bills and financial statements



## **Recommended IT Practices**

- Install antivirus tools
- Be aware of suspicious e-mails
- Protect laptops and PDAs
- Implement a plan for disaster recovery continuity of operations
- Develop IT security policies



## **Report Phishing Scams**

- Avoid opening attachments
- Avoid clicking on links
- Forward messages or Web site URL to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov)



## **Take Action if You are a Victim**

- Contact financial institutions
- Contact credit bureaus
  - Equifax: [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)
  - Experian: [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)
  - TransUnion: [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)
- File a police report with local law enforcement
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission:  
[www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/)





## Resources

- Internet sites
  - IRS.gov, Search *id theft* or *phishing*
  - [www.onguardonline.gov](http://www.onguardonline.gov)
  - [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov)
  - [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)
  - [www.SSA.gov](http://www.SSA.gov)
- Call
  - Taxpayer Advocate Service at 877-777-4778
  - IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 800-908-4490

